

IV. REMARKS

Entry of the foregoing Preliminary Amendment prior to examination is respectfully requested. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-8 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 9 and 16 are amended and claim 17 is added. This Preliminary Amendment is requested to put the divisional application in substantially the same condition as its parent Application No. 09/864,397.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' representative at the telephone number listed below.

Dated: October 6, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
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